

Appl 10/751,231
Amdt dated November 15, 2006
Reply to Office Action of August 30, 2006

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Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

A typical hacksaw **A** includes an open perimeter frame comprising a rear portion **C** and interconnected front portion **D** pivotally connected together at **R** to facilitate blade **E** installation. The forwardly portion of the blade **E** is connected to a blade attaching member **F** while the rear of the blade **E** is attached to an elongated threaded tensioning member **K** supported within a passageway through a lower rearward corner portion **G** of the rear **H** of the hacksaw frame **C**. This corner portion **G** has an elongated passageway formed therethrough for slidably supporting the tensioning member **K**. A handle **B** is attached to a frame portion **J**. The elongated blade-tensioning member **K** has a rearwardly threaded portion **L** onto which a wing nut **M** is attached and, when suitably tensioned against corner portion **G**, secures the blade **E** in operative engagement.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 16, with the following amended paragraph:

The hand guard **10** is easily attached to and removed from the hacksaw **A** by simply removing the wing nut **M**, inserting the threaded end **L** through aperture **18** while simultaneously resiliently urging notch **14** into surrounding engagement with frame portion **J** and against rear edge **N** just forwardly of handle **B**. Thereafter, the wing nut **M** is threadably resecured onto the threaded portion **L** of the rear blade-tensioning member **K** to resecure the blade **E** in its operative position and also to secure the hand guard **10** in its operative position as shown.

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Please replace the Abstract on page thirteen (13) with the following amended Abstract.

A resilient hand guard for protecting the hand of a hacksaw user. ~~The hand guard includes including a semi-rigid or resilient flat shield formed of resilient non-metallic or elastomeric material having a height generally equal to that of the frame or handle and a width at least as great as a projected frontal width of a user's hand when grasped around the handle. The shield has an elongated notch extending downwardly along a central axis of the shield from an upper margin thereof. The notch has having a width and length sufficient to be fitted around and receive support from an upper portion of the frame at a point in proximity to and just forwardly of the handle. The shield also has a mounting aperture positioned directly below the notch and spaced above a lower margin of the shield sized to fit over and receive support from a threaded end of an elongated rear blade tensioning support held within a lower corner of the frame. The shield is also positioned in close proximity along the upright central axis thereof against a rear upright frame portion which extends between the notch and mounting aperture. The shield has sufficient resiliency for a side portion thereof to be protectively deflected around a corresponding portion of the hand upon inadvertent impact against an object during use of the hacksaw.~~